



# Distillate Watch

December 22, 1999

Energy Information Administration  
Office of Oil & Gas

## SUPPLY

- Distillate stocks fell 2.9 million barrels (MMB) to 128.9 MMB on December 17, 1999. The largest decrease was in the Gulf Coast region, which dropped 1.2 MMB for the week. Heating oil stock decreased to 61.9 MMB, 1.9 MMB lower than last week, while low-sulfur stock at 67.0 MMB fell by 1.0 MMB. Distillate demand was steady at 3.9 million barrels per day (MMBD). Total distillate production dropped slightly to 3.4 million barrels per day. Imports rose slightly to 0.2 million barrels per day.
- This week U.S. crude oil input increased to 14.7 MMBD with refiners utilizing 91.1 percent of 16.2 MMBD in operating capacity.
- The EIA will have a normal data release schedule for the week ending December 24, 1999.**

### Distillate Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Distillate Week Ending					Low Sulfur (0.05% or less Sulfur) Week Ending				
	11/26/99	12/03/99	12/10/99	12/17/99	12/18/98	11/26/99	12/03/99	12/10/99	12/17/99	12/18/98
East Coast (PADD I)	392	473	387	<b>390</b>	487	224	199	172	<b>172</b>	170
Midwest (PADD II)	895	935	872	<b>860</b>	835	636	657	657	<b>650</b>	584
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	1,696	1,647	1,602	<b>1,557</b>	1,571	1,116	1,064	1,022	<b>1,037</b>	985
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	135	164	151	<b>157</b>	127	106	134	117	<b>118</b>	102
West Coast (PADD V)	460	486	427	<b>448</b>	421	370	374	341	<b>330</b>	341
U.S. Total	3,578	3,705	3,439	<b>3,412</b>	3,441	2,452	2,428	2,309	<b>2,307</b>	2,182

### Distillate Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Distillate Week Ending					Low Sulfur (0.05% or less Sulfur) Week Ending				
	11/26/99	12/03/99	12/10/99	12/17/99	12/17/98	11/26/99	12/03/99	12/10/99	12/17/99	12/17/98
East Coast (PADD I)	58.9	58.5	57.2	<b>56.3</b>	76.6	16.6	16.8	17.0	<b>16.8</b>	22.4
PADD IX	12.9	13.1	12.7	<b>11.8</b>	NA	1.4	1.5	1.8	<b>1.6</b>	NA
PADD IY	32.7	32.5	32.1	<b>30.7</b>	NA	8.0	8.0	8.3	<b>7.7</b>	NA
PADD IZ	13.2	12.9	12.4	<b>13.8</b>	NA	7.3	7.3	7.0	<b>7.5</b>	NA
Midwest (PADD II)	29.9	31.7	31.7	<b>31.1</b>	32.3	21.1	22.1	21.7	<b>21.4</b>	22.8
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	28.5	29.8	28.9	<b>27.7</b>	31.2	17.7	18.3	17.9	<b>17.6</b>	18.7
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	2.9	3.0	2.9	<b>3.0</b>	3.1	2.5	2.7	2.6	<b>2.6</b>	2.6
West Coast (PADD V)	11.3	11.7	11.2	<b>10.7</b>	12.2	9.1	9.2	8.9	<b>8.6</b>	8.8
U.S. Total	131.5	134.8	131.8	<b>128.9</b>	155.4	67.1	69.1	68.0	<b>67.0</b>	75.2

\* See the *Weekly Petroleum Status Report* Appendix A for a description of the derivation of average inventory levels. For information about distillate supply data, contact the National Energy Information Center at (202)586-8800. Internet: [Infoctr@eia.doe.gov](mailto:Infoctr@eia.doe.gov). Source: Energy Information Administration, Weekly Petroleum Status Report (WPSR). Year-ago production data taken from comparable week last year; year-ago stock data interpolated from final Petroleum Supply Monthly data.

## PRICES

- Expectations for large stock draws for the week ending December 10, 1999, later substantiated by both API and EIA, drove petroleum spot prices up. Distillate prices firmed as suppliers put together more batches for shipment when Colonial Pipeline, the link between Houston and New York, increased its distillate flow for the most recent shipment cycle. Temperatures in the Northeast were predicted to cool just before Christmas. The New York Harbor spot price for heating oil moved more than five cents higher from the previous week to 68.93 cents per gallon on December 20, 1999.
- The average U.S. on-highway diesel fuel price declined for the third straight week, though the 0.1 cent loss in the most recent period showed a definite slowing in the trend. As of December 20, 1999, the average on-highway diesel fuel price was 128.7 cents per gallon, almost 32 cents above last year when lower crude oil prices prevailed.

### No. 2 Distillate Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Low-Sulfur Distillate					High-Sulfur Distillate				
	11/29/99	12/06/99	12/13/99	12/20/99	12/21/98	11/29/99	12/06/99	12/13/99	12/20/99	12/21/98
New York	68.85	67.84	64.98	<b>69.93</b>	32.13	66.88	66.91	63.50	<b>68.93</b>	30.58
Chicago	70.00	67.93	65.50	<b>72.15</b>	31.33	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
Houston	66.30	65.56	62.48	<b>68.28</b>	29.28	64.30	64.76	61.63	<b>66.13</b>	28.03
Los Angeles (CARB)	77.50	73.00	71.50	<b>79.50</b>	38.50	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA

Source: Reuters Information Services.

### No. 2 Distillate Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes\*)

District	On-Highway Diesel Fuel					Residential Heating Oil				
	11/29/99	12/06/99	12/13/99	12/20/99	12/21/98	10/18/99	11/01/99	11/15/99	12/06/99	12/07/98
East Coast (PADD I)	129.0	128.5	128.1	<b>128.0</b>	97.6	101.3	102.6	106.1	<b>111.9</b>	86.9
PADD Ix	134.4	135.5	135.4	<b>135.8</b>	107.7	97.8	98.9	102.4	<b>108.6</b>	80.9
PADD Iy	136.9	136.7	137.0	<b>136.9</b>	106.5	104.9	106.1	109.8	<b>115.4</b>	91.5
PADD Iz	125.2	124.4	123.6	<b>123.5</b>	92.9	94.3	95.4	98.1	<b>103.4</b>	85.8
Midwest (PADD II)	130.7	129.1	128.2	<b>127.7</b>	94.6	94.6	95.9	99.8	<b>103.1</b>	76.0
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	126.2	125.6	125.5	<b>125.8</b>	93.9	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	133.2	133.6	133.8	<b>133.5</b>	99.3	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	138.6	137.5	136.1	<b>136.3</b>	106.2	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
California	146.9	145.9	143.2	<b>144.2</b>	111.8	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
U.S. Average**	130.4	129.4	128.8	<b>128.7</b>	96.8	100.6	101.8	105.4	<b>110.9</b>	85.7

Source: Diesel Fuel prices: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-888, On-Highway Diesel Price Survey; Residential Heating Oil prices for PADDs I and II: from data supplied by 21 State Energy Offices (SHOPP prices) from October through mid-March.

\* Taxes, if any, are not included in residential heating oil prices.

\*\* Residential heating oil average is for PADDs I and II only.

NA =Not Available.

For information about distillate spot and diesel fuel retail price data, contact the National Energy Information Center: 202-586-8800; Internet: [Infoctr@eia.doe.gov](mailto:Infoctr@eia.doe.gov).